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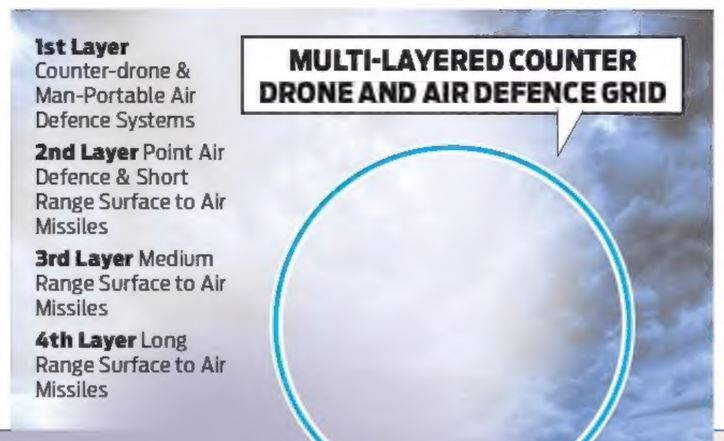
MULTI-LAYERED COUNTER DRONE AND AIR DEFENCE GRID
1st Layer Counter-drone & Man-Portable Air Defence Systems
2nd Layer Point Air Defence & Short Range Surface to Air Missiles
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4
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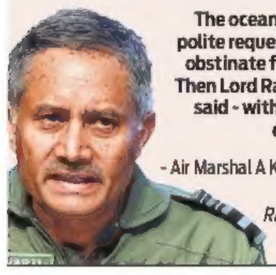
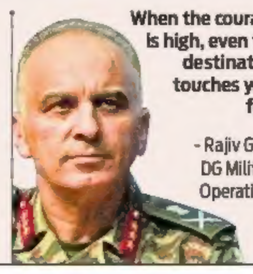


The ocean, unmoved by polite requests, remained obstinate for three days. Then Lord Rama, in anger, said - without fear, love does not arise

- Air Marshal A K Bharti quoting a verse from *Ramcharitmanas*



When the courage is high, even the destination touches your feet

- Rajiv Ghai, DG Military Operations

IT'S ONLY A PAUSE: MODI

SAYS OPERATION SINDOOR NEW NORM; FUTURE TALKS ONLY ON TERROR, RETURNING PoK; NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL WON'T WORK

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@ New Delhi

IN a televised address to the nation on Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered a clear and uncompromising message to Pakistan: the halt in India's military operations is a pause, not an end—and going forward, any engagement with Islamabad will be limited to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and terrorism.

"Operation Sindoor has not ended; it will be a continuing and decisive action against state-sponsored terror attacks on Indian citizens," Modi asserted in his first remarks since the military strikes on terror infrastructure in Pakistan and PoK.

OPERATION SINDOOR
DAY 6

This is not the era of war, but it is not the era of terrorism either

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Modi made clear that the decision to pause retaliatory operations followed Pakistan's assurances to cease further terrorist and military activity. "In the coming days, we will measure every step taken by Pakistan on the basis of the attitude it adopts on terrorism," he warned.

Framing the operation as far more than a military offensive, the PM described it as a doctrinal shift in India's national security posture. "Operation Sindoor was not just an operation but a doctrinal change and a policy against terror," he said.

He dismissed Pakistan's long-used tactic of nuclear posturing, asserting that "nuclear blackmail" will not work against India, and stressed that New Delhi is no longer restrained by outdated strategic hesitations. Modi went on to reinforce the new paradigm: "This is a new normal. India will strike at the heart of terror decisively if our citizens are attacked."

"Terror and talk cannot go together; terror and trade cannot go together. And water and blood also cannot flow together," Modi said.

"The terrorist who dared to wipe the sindoor from the foreheads of our sisters—that's why India destroyed the very headquarters of terror in Pakistan," he added.

He detailed the impact of India's military strikes on terror infrastructure to respond to the Pahalgam, saying that the strikes sent shockwaves through Pakistan's leadership.

While condemning Pakistan's retaliation—targeting religious sites, schools, and military and civilian installations—Modi said India struck "strategically," hitting the core of Pakistan's terror infrastructure. Issuing a stark warning to Islamabad, Modi said: "The way Pakistan army and Pakistan government are encouraging terrorism, it will one day destroy Pakistan itself. If Pakistan wants to survive, it will have to destroy its terror infrastructure."

From left: Possible debris of a Chinese PL -15 LR air-to-air missile; long range rockets; loiter munitions and unmanned aerial systems downed by Indian air defence systems

SUSPECTED DRONE ACTIVITY IN PUNJAB, JAMMU

Drones were reportedly sighted over Jalandhar and Hoshiarpur in Punjab shortly after PM's address to the nation. There was blackout in Amritsar, Hoshiarpur and parts of Jalandhar. The Amritsar International Airport was also briefly shut for civil operations. Reports said Security forces engaged suspected drones in Samba district of Jammu region

TARGETS ENGAGED BY IAF IN PAKISTAN

Did business-ceasefire tradeoff to avert nuclear conflict: Trump

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

US President Donald Trump on Monday claimed that his administration averted a potential nuclear conflict between India and Pakistan by brokering a "full and immediate ceasefire" and offering increased trade as an incentive for de-escalation between the neigbours.

"On Saturday, my administration helped broker a full and immediate ceasefire, I think, a permanent one, between India and Pakistan, ending a dangerous conflict of two nations with lots of nuclear weapons. And they were going at it hot and heavy, and it was seemingly not going to stop," Trump said in remarks from the White House, calling the halting of military action between two countries was one of the "historic events that took place over the last few days."

Trump claimed that US economic leverage played a key role in persuading the two sides to step back from the brink. "We helped a lot, and we helped also with trade. I said, 'Come on, we're going to do a lot of trade with you guys. Let's stop it. If you stop it, we're doing trade. If you don't stop it, we're not going to do any trade.'"

No reference to trade issues, says India

Sources in Delhi denied that the US broached trade issues after Operation Sindoor. "There was no reference to trade in those discussions."

Trump went on to brag, "People have never really used trade the way I used it, that I can tell you, and all of a sudden they said, 'I think we're going to stop,' and they have." He said: "I think it could have been a bad nuclear war. Millions of people could have been killed. So I'm very proud of that.."

Indian sources, however, maintained that the de-escalation agreement was a bilateral initiative between the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of India and Pakistan sans third-party involvement.

DGMOs smoke peace pipe in first talks after 'truce'

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of Pakistan and India on Monday agreed not to initiate aggressive and inimical actions. According an Indian Army readout, in the talks between Lieutenant General Rajiv Ghai and Major General Kashif Chaudhry held at 5 pm, "Issues related to continuing the commitment that both sides must not fire a single shot or initiate any aggressive and inimical action against each other were discussed."

During the talks over the hotline, the two military officials also agreed that both sides consider immediate measures to ensure troop reduction from the borders and forward areas, the Army statement added.

The talks were initially scheduled for 12 noon on Monday but were deferred to the evening, though the reason for the delay was not conveyed by the Indian armed forces.

It was on Saturday that both sides had announced an agreement to cease all firings and military actions on land, air, and sea, effective immediately. Hours later, Pakistan breached the pact. The talks followed the relentless military operations carried out between the armed forces of the two countries.

Indian armed forces launched 'Operation Sindoor' on May 7 to destroy nine terror camps located in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. P6,7,9,10

Robber flashes gun, escapes with cash from pub in B'luru

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE police rushed in with the Quick Response Team (QRT), drones and bomb squad to the upscale Geometry Brewery and Kitchen pub in Subramanyanagar 2nd Stage after the security guard made an emergency call, saying a robber, wielding a gun, had targeted the pub.

The guard made the call around 4.30 am on Monday, but the police, despite extensive search, could not arrest the masked intruder.

The police said Rs 50,000 is missing from the cash box on the third floor.

As the guard claimed that he locked the door with the robber inside, the police cordoned off the area and surrounded the three-storeyed pub along with QRT. The officials used drones to see if the robber was still inside, but did not find anyone despite intense checks.

The police suspect that the accused might have escaped through the backdoor by the time they reached the spot. They are trying to find out if he escaped through the kitchen or any other exit.

They suspect that the robber entered the pub by breaking open one of the rear doors. After disabling CCTV cameras, he went to the third floor and made away with the cash, said the police, who suspect the role of an insider. P3

Gaffe over J&K map puts Congress on backfoot

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

WITH the nation still in an unforgiving mood over terror attacks from across the border, the state unit of the principal opposition party, Congress, got itself in a tangle over representation of Jammu and Kashmir boundary in a map used by the party's social media team.

On Monday, the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) put out a post on social media criticizing the International Monetary Fund (IMF) approving financial aid to Pakistan but showed a part of Jammu and Kashmir as that of Pakistan.

The gaffe put the party on the back foot with India-Pakistan relationship at an all-time low. Enraged netizens poured vitriol on the party's social media page, forcing the party to delete the post.

The post was intended to criticise PM Narendra Modi and the Centre for failing to stop the IMF loan to Pakistan.

Opposition Leader in the Assembly, R Ashoka, called the Congress IT cell a terrorist sleeper cell of Pakistan. Expressing displeasure over the post, Ashoka said, "This shows how much they love Pakistan".

He also recalled how Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had initially reacted over the war against Pakistan. P4

EXPRESS READ

Cybercriminals can hack devices through fake news on conflict

Bengaluru: Bengaluru Police Commissioner B Dayananda has warned citizens to be cautious as cybercriminals are spreading phishing links and malicious APKs through updates on the India-Pakistan conflict. Cashing in on people's curiosity, criminals are sending messages claiming to provide exclusive updates or leaked footage related to the conflict. These messages often contain fake links that can download malware onto users' devices | P5

Internal quota survey comes under credibility cloud

Bengaluru: Authenticity is going to be a challenge for the ongoing Scheduled Caste internal quota survey with some community leaders questioning its conduct. Apart from technical glitches early on, there are allegations that some enumerators lack in training and enthusiasm. The leaders questioned how mere self-declaration would lead to credibility in the absence of caste certificates | P4

WALKS INTO SUNSET

Kohli leaves behind a Virat void

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

AND so, just like that, the king bids adieu. For over a decade, Virat Kohli was synonymous with Test cricket because of the way he lived, breathed and cared for it. He put his heart and soul into the game's oldest format and it became richer because of it at a time when there were questions aplenty about the primacy of the five-day game.

So, it was no coincidence that Kohli engineered India's rise up the rankings thanks to the way he believed in approaching — 20 wickets first, batters next — Tests. If Kohli the white-ball captain had an asterisk next to it, Kohli's red-ball leadership was embellished every time he walked out for the toss.

There was the time when he instructed his bowlers to give England 'hell' at Lord's in 2021 (India won that game). There was the time when he whipped up the crowd, his bowlers and the fielders in a rabble-rousing display of us v. them in an electric Test against Australia at Bengaluru in 2017 (India won). There were memorable 100s in winning causes, losing causes as well as leading a team to a first series win in Australia.

Above all, there was an indescribable light around the 36-year-old whenever he strode out to the centre with his whites. It's no exaggeration to say that that light has now left the building and India will struggle to replace him for multiple reasons. One is Kohli the batter. The next is to find somebody who can transmit that same energy. When he announced his retirement on Insta, the accompanying choice was Frank Sinatra's 'My Way'. "I have lived it My Way, I travelled each and every highway, And more, much more than this, I did it my way". P15

As I step away from this format, it's not easy but it feels right

Virat Kohli, ex-captain

VIT
Vellore Institute of Technology
(Deemed to be University under section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

Hearty Congratulations

Dr. G. Viswanathan

Founder & Chancellor - VIT

on being conferred Honorary Doctor of Pedagogy by the prestigious

Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), Rochester, New York State, USA

This momentous occasion of being conferred with your Honorary Doctorate marks a remarkable milestone, underscoring your unwavering dedication, profound impact on countless lives through selfless service and significant effort in nation building.

We salute your transformative work and inspiring journey.

Best Wishes from

VIT Alumni Association (VITAA)